



**Office of the Attorney General
Paul G. Summers**

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**STATE OF TENNESSEE RECEIVES MORE THAN \$1.7 MILLION IN TOBACCO
SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS TODAY**

Attorney General Paul G. Summers announced today the State of Tennessee received a supplemental payment totaling \$1,747,581.97 as part of the tobacco Master Settlement Agreement (MSA).

The payment came from several Subsequent Participating Manufacturers (SPMs). These SPMs had previously contested their obligation to make this payment, but ultimately agreed to make their payments to the settling states, including Tennessee. For this calendar year, Tennessee has received approximately \$155,575,750 including the additional payment under the MSA.

Participating Manufacturers under the MSA are obligated to make payments to all settling states and are also bound by a wide array of restrictions on the advertising, promotion and marketing of cigarettes. Restrictions include bans on targeting youth, outdoor advertising and distribution of any merchandise advertising a cigarette brand. Since the MSA took effect, Tennessee has received over \$1 billion in payments. Youth smoking rates nationally have also dropped by more than 25%, and overall smoking has declined nearly 20%.

The MSA was originally entered into between 46 states and the major tobacco companies in November 1998. Since that time, more than 40 other companies have joined the MSA.